

This Page Is Inserted by IFW Operations  
and is not a part of the Official Record

## **BEST AVAILABLE IMAGES**

Defective images within this document are accurate representations of the original documents submitted by the applicant.

Defects in the images may include (but are not limited to):

- BLACK BORDERS
- TEXT CUT OFF AT TOP, BOTTOM OR SIDES
- FADED TEXT
- ILLEGIBLE TEXT
- SKEWED/SLANTED IMAGES
- COLORED PHOTOS
- BLACK OR VERY BLACK AND WHITE DARK PHOTOS
- GRAY SCALE DOCUMENTS

**IMAGES ARE BEST AVAILABLE COPY.**

As rescanning documents *will not* correct images,  
please do not report the images to the  
Image Problem Mailbox.

**Amendment to the Claims**

Please cancel Claims 1, 11, 13, and 23 without prejudice.

Please amend Claims 2, 3, 5, 8-10, 12, 14, 15, 17, 20, 21, 22, and 24, as follows:

5

1. (canceled)

2. (currently amended) A method for developing rules applications, wherein the method comprises the computer implemented steps of:

10

generating a first template that defines a rules structure for rules that may be executed by a rules engine;

generating a second template describing a first set of tasks that includes a first task and an association with said task and said first template;

15

generating a set of rules based on said first template, wherein said association between said first task and said first template causes execution of said set of rules by said rules engine while executing said first task;

20

The method of claim 1, wherein the step of generating a second template describing an association with said first task and said first template includes the step of generating a second template that describes an association between said first task and a template group that includes said first template.

25

3. (currently amended) The method of claim [[1]]2, the method further including the step of generating a third template describing a second set of tasks that includes a second task and association between said first template and said second task, wherein said association between said second task and said first template causes execution of said set of rules by said rules engine while executing said first task.

30

4. (original) The method of claim 3, the method further including the steps:  
modifying said set of rules; and  
after modifying said set of rules, executing said first task and said second task,  
wherein executing said first task and said second task after modifying said set of rules causes execution of the modified set of rules.

35

5. (currently amended) The method of claim [[1]]2, wherein the step of generating said set of rules includes generating said first set of rules based on said first template and instances of said first template.

6. (original) The method of claim 5, further including the steps of:  
generating one or more user interfaces based on said first template; and  
generating said instances in response to said user interfaces receiving input from a  
5 user indicating values for said instances.
7. (original) The method of claim 6, further including the steps of:  
generating a third template describing a second set of tasks that includes a second  
task and association between said first template and said second task, wherein said  
10 association between said second task and said first template causes execution of said set  
of rules by said rules engine while executing said first task;  
modifying said instances;  
modifying said set of rules based on said first template and the modifications to said  
instances; and  
15 after modifying said set of rules, executing said first task and said second task,  
wherein executing said first task and said second task after modifying said set of rules  
causes execution of the modified set of rules.
8. (currently amended) The method of claim [[1]]2, wherein said first template is a rule  
20 template.
9. (currently amended) The method of claim [[1]]2, wherein said second template is a  
ruleflow template describing tasks that entail execution of rules.
- 25 10. (currently amended) The method of claim [[1]]2, wherein said first template describes  
a structure of a business rule.
11. (canceled)
- 30 12. (currently amended) A method for developing software that involves the execution  
of rules by a rules engine, wherein the method comprises the computer implemented  
steps of:  
generating a group of rule templates that define rules structure for rules that may be  
executed by said rules engine;  
35 generating a first ruleflow template that defines: a first set of tasks that includes a first  
task, and an association with said first task and a group of rule templates;

generating a second ruleflow template that defines: a second set of tasks that includes a second task, an association with said second task and said group of rule templates;

generating a set of rules based on said group of templates,

5 wherein said association between said first task and said group of templates causes execution of said set of rules by said rules engine while executing said first task;

wherein said association between said second task and said group of templates causes execution of said set of rules by said rules engine while executing said second task;

The method of claim 11, further including the steps of:

10 generating one or more user interfaces based on said group of rule templates;

generating instances of said group of rule templates in response to said user interfaces receiving input from a user indicating values for said instances;

generating changes to said instances in response to said user interface receiving further input from said user indicating new values for said instances;

15 modifying said set of rules based on said group of rule templates and said changes to said instances; and

after modifying said set of rules, executing said first task and said second task, wherein executing said first task and said second task after modifying said set of rules causes execution of the modified set of rules.

20

13. (canceled)

14. (currently amended) A computer-readable medium carrying one or more sequences of instructions for developing rules applications, wherein execution of the one or more  
25 sequences of instructions by one or more processors causes the one or more processors to perform the steps of:

generating a first template that defines a rules structure for rules that may be executed by a rules engine;

30 generating a second template describing a first set of tasks that includes a first task and an association with said task and said first template;

generating a set of rules based on said first template;

wherein said association between said first task and said first template causes execution of said set of rules by said rules engine while executing said first task; and

35 The computer-readable medium of claim 13, wherein the step of generating a second template describing an association with said first task and said first template includes

the step of generating a second template that describes an association between said first task and a template group that includes said first template.

15. (currently amended) The computer-readable medium of claim [[13]]14, the computer-readable medium further including one or more instructions for performing the step of generating a third template describing a second set of tasks that includes a second task and association between said first template and said second task, wherein said association between said second task and said first template causes execution of said set of rules by said rules engine while executing said first task.

16. (original) The computer-readable medium of claim 15, the computer-readable medium further including one or more instructions for performing the steps of:

modifying said set of rules; and

after modifying said set of rules, executing said first task and said second task, wherein executing said first task and said second task after modifying said set of rules causes execution of the modified set of rules.

17. (currently amended) The computer-readable medium of claim [[13]]14, wherein the step of generating said set of rules includes generating said first set of rules based on said first template and instances of said first template.

18. (original) The computer-readable medium of claim 17, further including one or more instructions for performing the steps of:

generating one or more user interfaces based on said first template; and

generating said instances in response to said user interfaces receiving input from a user indicating values for said instances.

19. (original) The computer-readable medium of claim 18, further including one or more instructions for performing the steps of:

generating a third template describing a second set of tasks that includes a second task and association between said first template and said second task, wherein said association between said second task and said first template causes execution of said set of rules by said rules engine while executing said first task;

modifying said instances;

modifying said set of rules based on said first template and the modifications to said instances; and

after modifying said set of rules, executing said first task and said second task, wherein executing said first task and said second task after modifying said set of rules causes execution of the modified set of rules.

5 20. (currently amended) The computer-readable medium of claim [[13]]14, wherein said first template is a rule template.

21. (currently amended) The computer-readable medium of claim [[13]]14, wherein said second template is a ruleflow template describing tasks that entail execution of rules.

10

22. (currently amended) The computer-readable medium of claim [[13]]14, wherein said first template describes a structure of a business rule.

23. (canceled)

15

24. (currently amended) A computer-readable medium carrying one or more sequences of instructions for developing software that involves the execution of rules by a rules engine, wherein execution of the one or more sequences of instructions by one or more processors causes the one or more processors to perform the steps of:

20 generating a group of rule templates that define rules structure for rules that may be executed by said rules engine;

generating a first ruleflow template that defines: a first set of tasks that includes a first task, and an association with said first task and a group of rule templates;

25 generating a second ruleflow template that defines: a second set of tasks that includes a second task, an association with said second task and said group of rule templates;

30 generating a set of rules based on said group of templates, wherein said association between said first task and said group of templates causes execution of said set of rules by said rules engine while executing said first task, and wherein said association between said second task and said group of templates causes execution of said set of rules by said rules engine while executing said second task;

The computer-readable medium of claim 23, further including one or more instructions for performing the steps of:

35 generating one or more user interfaces based on said group of rule templates;

generating instances of said group of rule templates in response to said user interfaces receiving input from a user indicating values for said instances;

generating changes to said instances in response to said user interface receiving further input from said user indicating new values for said instances;

modifying said set of rules based on said group of rule templates and said changes to said instances; and

- 5 after modifying said set of rules, executing said first task and said second task, wherein executing said first task and said second task after modifying said set of rules causes execution of the modified set of rules.